

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 03476 301025Z

15

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 SPM-01 EA-11 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 SS-15

NSC-10 /113 W

----- 105424

R 281700Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 789

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 3476

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, KS, SW, UN

SUBJECT: SIDA OC DONATIONS TO KOREA

REF: SEOUL 6528 (NOTAL); STOCKHOLM 3252 (NOTAL)

1. CARL WAHREN, CHIEF OF POPULATION BUREAU OF SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (SIDA), CONFIRMED SEPTEMBER 27 THAT GOS WILL TERMINATE ITS BILATERAL AGREEMENT TO SUPPLY KOREANS WITH ORAL CONTRACEPTIVE (OC) PILLS. WAHREN SAID DECISION WAS PROMPTED BY "LIMITED SWEDISH CAPACITY TO SUPPLY PILLS AND BY LACK OF SWEDISH FIELD REPRESENTATIVES TO ADMINISTER PROGRAM." GOS WILL GIVE KOREANS SUFFICIENT PILLS TO MEET THEIR NEEDS AT LEAST UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1975. IT WILL CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO KOREAN INSTITUTE FOR FAMILY PLANNING.

2. WAHREN SAID GOS HAS ENCOURAGED UN FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES (UNFPA) TO TAKE OVER PROGRAM. HE RATIONALIZED THAT DROPPING THIS DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO KOREA WAS MERELY SUBSTITUTION OF MULTILATERAL FOR BILATERAL MONEY; SWEDEN, HE SAID, IS SECOND LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO UNFPA, HAVING GIVEN FUND \$3 MILLION FOR 1973. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT UNFPA MAY HAVE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY IN TAKING ON THAT JOB, A POINT WHICH KOREANS ALSO APPARENTLY HAVE IN MIND. STATING HIS PERSONAL BELIEF IN IMPORTANCE OF
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PAGE 02 STOCKH 03476 301025Z

OC PROGRAM IN KOREA, WAHREN HOPED US COULD PROVIDE ANY PILLS

UNFPA MAY BE UNABLE TO SUPPLY.

3. COMMENT. WAHREN'S EXPLANATION FOR SWEDISH DECISION IS NOT VERY CONVINCING. EMBASSY LEARNED EARLIER THIS MONTH THAT SWEDISH DOUBTS ABOUT UNFPA EFFICIENCY MAKE IMPROBABLE ANY INCREASE IN SWEDISH CONTRIBUTION TO FUND FOR 1974. IT THEREFORE APPEARS TO EMBASSY THAT GOS IS DUMPING SUPPLY PROGRAM ON UNFPA WITHOUT INCREASING SWEDISH CONTRIBUTION. KOREA CLEARLY NOT AMONG FAVORED RECIPIENTS OF SWEDISH AID.
OLSEN

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